

STRAIGHT FROM THE STATEHOUSE

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MCGREEVEY MOVES TO MAKE WATER RESOURCES A HIGH PRIORITY

Governor McGreevey signed a bill to protect water resources and establish flood-prone areas as high priorities under New Jersey's Open Space Preservation Program.

The new law helps to ensure clean drinking water supplies for millions of New Jersey citizens.

"Protecting and preserving New Jersey's water resources, including our water supply, is essential to our public and economic health. The acquisition of flood-prone areas as part of the State's open space program is in our best interest so that we can prevent the loss of life and property," said McGreevey.

MCGREEVEY SIGNS EXECUTIVE ORDERS TO COMMEMORATE SEPTEMBER 11TH ATTACKS

Governor McGreevey signed two Executive Orders regarding the September 11th attacks: One concerning the commemoration of the first anniversary and one concerning the creation of a New Jersey Memorial.

In observance of the first anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks, the E.O. calls for all State offices and public buildings to fly the United States and New Jersey flags at half-staff.

The E.O. also allows State employees who lost an immediate family member in the attacks take a paid day off from work on September 11, 2002. Employees who lost a spouse, child, foster child, grandchild, parent, grandparent, sibling, an in-law, legal ward or legal guardian will be

asked to provide the agency or division at which they are employed with written notice.

Through the other E.O. the Governor created a Family and Survivor Memorial Committee, which will be charged with developing a permanent September 11th memorial in New Jersey.

"The events of September 11th shattered our domestic tranquility and threatened us all," said McGreevey. "Our neighbors died. Our buildings fell. On America's second day of infamy, tragedy struck our nation as terrorists attacked the twin



towers of the World Trade Center and Washington and brought a flight originating from Newark down in a Pennsylvania field."

Approximately 691 New Jersey residents died on September 11, 2001—over one-quarter of the total number of heroes who lost their lives in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington D.C. that day.

For copies of the Executive Orders, please call 609-777-2600.

MCGREEVEY UNVEILS EMERGENCY RADIO SYSTEM FOR HOSPITALS

Governor McGreevey joined Health Commissioner Lacy and State Police Office of Emergency Management Captain Kevin Hayden to announce the implementation of an 800-megahertz radio communications system for all 85 of New Jersey's acute care hospitals.

The installation of the radio system makes New Jersey the first state in the nation to have its acute care hospitals interconnected by a non-interruptible interoperable communications system.

The system is being implemented in partnership with the New Jersey Hospital

Association.

"This radio system will ensure that – regardless of the circumstances – New Jersey's hospitals are able to communicate effectively," said McGreevey. "This is a critical public health issue, and New Jersey is leading the way."

MCGREEVEY CELEBRATES LABOR DAY

Governor McGreevey and Labor Commissioner Kroll celebrated Labor Day at the Southern New Jersey AFL-CIO Central Labor Council's 108th Annual Peter J. McGuire Labor Day Observance Scholarship Breakfast.

“Organized labor plays a critical role in our State and in our Nation by ensuring proper working conditions, compensation and benefits for the men and women who comprise our labor force,” McGreevey said. “Labor Day provides an opportunity to renew our commitment to principles which have made labor such an important component of our society.”

MCGREEVEY HITS THE BEACH

To celebrate the unofficial last weekend of the summer, Governor McGreevey spent this year's Labor Day weekend on a Beachwalk



through Cape May, Atlantic, Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

The Governor visited the boardwalks and downtown areas of Cape May, Atlantic City, Point Pleasant and Belmar, taking time out to meet with local resi-

dents and visit well-known sites.

Governor McGreevey also stopped for lunch at eateries, such as the Irish Pub and Max's Hot Dog Stand.

MCGREEVEY SUPPORTS ETHANOL PRODUCTION PLANT

Governor McGreevey announced his support for efforts to construct the first ethanol production facility in New Jersey, which would also be the first such facility in the mid-Atlantic region.

McGreevey was joined

by Agriculture Secretary Kuperus, who is coordinating the State's effort to identify funding assistance for a \$60 million ethanol facility planned by Garden State Ethanol—a private corporation of farmers, investors and other agricultural interests who have

undertaken a grassroots effort to construct, own and operate an ethanol production facility in New Jersey.

A number of potential locations in South Jersey are being considered for the ethanol plant.

MCGREEVEY BRINGS AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY TO NJ SCHOOLS

Governor McGreevey signed legislation aimed at incorporating African-American history into the traditional curriculum of New Jersey's schools.

The “Amistad Bill” (A1301), sponsored by Assemblymen William D. Payne and Craig A. Stanley, seeks to create a greater level of academic knowledge within our

school children. The bill creates an “Amistad Commission” in honor of the enslaved Africans, who gained their freedom after overthrowing the crew of the Amistad cargo ship en route from Havana in 1839.

The Commission will promote wider implementation of educational awareness programs regarding

the African slave trade, slavery in America and the many contributions African Americans have made over the course of United States history.

The Amistad Commission will consist of 19 members, and will designate appropriate textbooks that accurately chronicle the African-American experience in the United States.